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FEB 21 2006****PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	Brian J. Brown, Michael Davis, David Friesen, Timothy J. Ley and Sean P. Skubitz
Application No.:	09/197278
Filed:	November 20, 1998
For:	Improved Longitudinally Flexible Expandable Stent
Examiner:	Vy Q Bui
Group Art Unit:	3731

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2B-6769-US01**AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated October 19, 2005.

If an extension of time is required to make this response timely and no separate petition is enclosed, Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time sufficient to make the response timely. In the event that this response requires the payment of government fees and payment is not enclosed, please charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Please amend the application as follows:

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Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-6769-US01

Conclusion

At least for the above reasons, the pending claims are seen to be patentable over the applied art. Applicant requests that the rejections be withdrawn and that application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: 2/2/06

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